Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-41. (Canceled)

42. (New) A method for preventing and/or treating a disease involving β-sheet fibril formation, other than Alzheimer's Disease, in a subject which comprises administering to the subject a binding-inhibiting amount of a compound capable of inhibiting binding of the β-sheet fibril to RAGE so as to thereby prevent and/or treat a disease involving β-sheet fibril formation other than Alzheimer's Disease in the subject.

43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the compound is sRAGE or a fragment thereof.

44. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the compound comprises a fragment of sRAGE.

45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the fragment of sRAGE comprises the V-domain of sRAGE.

46. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the compound comprises an antibody or portion thereof.

47. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the compound is

an anti-RAGE antibody or a portion thereof.

48. (New) The method of claim 47, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

49. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein the monoclonal antibody is a human, a humanized, or a chimeric antibody.

50. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the compound comprises an Fab fragment of an anti-RAGE antibody.

51. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the compound comprises the variable domain of an anti-RAGE antibody.

52. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the compound comprises one or more CDR portions of an anti-RAGE antibody.

53. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the compound is an IgG antibody.

54. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the compound comprises a peptide, a peptidomimetic, a nucleic acid, or an organic compound with a molecular weight less than 500 daltons.

55. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the β-sheet fibril is amyloid fibril.

56. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the β-sheet fibril is a prion-derived fibril.

57. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the β-sheet fibril is selected from the group consisting of amyloid-β peptide, amylin, amyloid A, prion-derived peptide, transthyretin, cystatin C, gelsolin and a peptide capable of forming amyloid.

58. (New) The method of claim 57, where the β-sheet fibril is an amyloid-β peptide selected from the group consisting of Aβ (1-39), Aβ (1-40), Aβ (1-42) and Aβ (1-40) Dutch variant.

59. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the subject is a mammal.

60. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the mammal is a human being.

61. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the administration is intralesional, intraperitoneal, intramuscular, intravenous, liposome mediated delivery, topical, nasal, oral, anal, ocular or otic delivery.

62. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the method is for preventing a disease involving β-sheet fibril formation.

63. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the method is for treating a disease involving β-sheet fibril formation.

64. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the disease is diabetes.

65. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the disease is hyperlipidemic atherosclerosis.

66. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the disease is neuropathy.

67. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the disease is nephropathy.

68. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the disease is amyloidosis.

69. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the disease is a wound associated with diabetes.